

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996
From: "Chuck Rippel" <crippel@exis.net>
Subject: (Fwd) AWA this weekend?
Message-ID: <199602111608.LAA21194@marlin.exis.net>

Isn't the AWA having some sort of QSO party this weekend? Anyone have the details?

If so, drop me an E-Mail.

Tnx
+++++

Chuck Rippel
crippel@exis.net

+++++

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996
From: DUBY TODD <dube2@mci.newscorp.com>
Subject: Another change coming
Message-ID: <199602110541.AAA00275@kafka.delphi.com>

Well, my experience with the beta test is coming to a close in about a week. I don't know if I'll still have the mcicorp.com address when the test is up or whether I'll need to go back to the delphi.com address. I've been fortunate to have an 800 number access with the beta test, but when it's over this service will require a LD call to Austin and I may not stay with it. I'll be sure to unsubscribe if I leave this service. Jack says some mail has already bounced, but it shouldn't have. They're still playing around with their system, doing the final tweaking. So please bear with me for another week.

73,
Dube
Dube Todd AB5AP dube2@mci.newscorp.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996
From: arc5@ix.netcom.com (David Stinson)
Subject: Audio Archiving the Classics
Message-ID: <199602111208.EAA02268@ix4.ix.netcom.com>

Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>

>We shoulda taped them but didn't...
>digitizing audio - how big would a one-minute file be?
I think it's a grand idea, if you can find the space.
One minute of audio digitized monoral 8 bits at an 11 Khz
sampling rate will consume about 667 kilobytes.
Assuming a PC machine, of course.
Apples are for eating (snicker).
I think that's about the minimum standard to use.
You'd lose a lot of fidelity trying to digitize at a
slower sampling rate, which would defeat the whole purpose
of the recording.

But then, I'm no "bit-head." Anyone out there know a
good compression thingie that's readily useable and
available to unsophisticated keyboard pokers like me?

73 DE Dave Stinson AB5S/7
arc5@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996
From: Fire Bottle archive handler <firebot1@jackatak.theporch.com>
Subject: AWA this weekend? Nope...
Message-ID: <9602111424.aa01806@jackatak.theporch.com>

Gang-

> Isn't the AWA having some sort of QSO party this weekend? Anyone
> have the details?
NOT this weekend... those dates were in error... it is next WEDNESDAY
(Valentine's Day ;^) and then Next weekend, the 17/18...

See the details posted here previously in digests, retrievable on
SunSite...

And, for the other AWA fans in the crowd, there is a new file in the
archives... about the AWA Meet in Charlotte next month...

to retrieve it, send email to:

listproc@theporch.com

and in the body, type:

get boatanchors AWA.Meet.Charlotte

Thanks to Barry Ornitz for the contribution...

--

73

Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)

- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Archiver/Owner - - -

firebot1@jackatak.theporch.com ---- listown@jackatak.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996

From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>

Subject: Re: BA policy on postings

Message-ID: <199602110408.WAA15741@zoom.bga.com>

As montaw@inforamp.net said

>

>

>

> I need some guidance on what is acceptable practice here.

> I'm having a ball and before I breach protocol and tic

> someone off, I need to know

>

> Where does a 'boatanchor' stop? Now I *know* an ART-13,

> BC348, and an RT/70 is a boatanchor. But what is the high

> water mark? Is a KWM380, TR7 or an HR0500 a boatanchor? Is

> it non-Japanese? Must it have glassFETs?

>

Well, I'm not sure here. Yesterday, I had "donated" to me a **real** boatanchor, in terms of weight. A Crown DC300A amplifier. That sucker must weigh 60-70 lbs, but it doesn't have a vacuum tube in the whole thing. Somebody's been there before me, so I don't know if this box is a goner or fixable. I've got to find a dummy load to put on it---maybe some automobile headlights would do.

Thing I can't figure is what you would do with 300 watts of audio besides heat the room. This sucker is big enough to modulate a pair of 813's, but getting a transformer that would present 4 ohms or so impedance might be a bit of a chore. Maybe something wound with copper tubing?

And I'm the guy who jokes about a 813's push-pull as the ultimate "golden ear" audio amp that will drive anything. This sucker's specs are more than you could get out of 4 813's in two channels. No wonder it weighs so much.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996
From: Fire Bottle archive handler <firebotl@jackatak.theporch.com>
Subject: Re: BA policy on postings
Message-ID: <9602111000.aa28914@jackatak.theporch.com>

Jeff (and the BA list)-

> I think I might know why posts concerning the MF and LF regions become
> long-running threads on BA. Something about that portion of the spectrum
> fires up our imaginations and put us in the mood of days gone by - days
> when spark was the order of the day, when transmitters were just as
> mechanical as electrical, when antennas ran the length of football
> fields.

Lyrical, and evocative, but not at all recognizing the essential part:
Interesting though they may be, they do NOT belong on the BA list...
There are loads of other forums for SWL reports and Lowfer activity.
There was NOTHING in the thread that would justify it being on the BA
list... the transmitter was sand, the band in use has been hashed over
before and declared as not really a BA topic, and they posts were
virtually ALL mere SWL reports, with no reference at all to the BA
subject matter.

Your argument, while passionate and firmly held, does NOT hold water
for the BA list, Jeff... it is off-topic, and belongs elsewhere, and
those who have posted are NOT being considerate of the subscribers off
the USA, many of whom have to pay by the pound for email, and who want
the discussions to stay ON-topic.

> We yearn for stories of maritime communications on 600M
Your series on your experiences as a "Coastie" were on-topic, and
about firebottle radios and technologies and times...

> for Bobbi's and others' adventures at their broadcast transmitter
> sites (recall the thread titled "broadcast blowups"?)
Again, a real-time account of a firebottle transmitter, whose failure
could be directly extrapolated to vintage BA rigs.

> for folks experimenting on the "Lowfer" band of 160-190 kc and the
> whistlers they hear...

Here we get back to basically off-topic...

> I've subscribed to the TopBand list and thoroughly enjoy reading the
> DX reports that I thought could *never* occur on 160M.
So? Carry the thread over there and see if those folks think it has
anything to do with 160M... I do not know anything of that list, but
if there is a responsible listowner, I think I may be declared
off-topic, and in a hurry...

> but there's something mystical about the MF/LF region that creates a
> sense of wonderment in us.
And, it has NOTHING to do with BoatAnchors... *unless* the transmitter
is a vintage firebottle rig...

> So please be a bit forgiving with regard to threads discussing some
> area of operation that occurs below 2 Mc.
My mail is running a tad different than yours... many have asked why I
have let the thread go as long as I have. I was trying to let it die,
on its own, because people recognized it was off-topic and belonged
elsewhere.

--

73

Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)

- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Archiver/Owner - - -

firebotl@jackatak.theporch.com ---- listown@jackatak.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996
From: List Admin/Owner BoatAnchor Mail List <listown@jackatak.theporch.com>
Subject: BA Web information -- on theporch.com
Message-ID: <9602111519.aa02367@jackatak.theporch.com>

Gang-

Phil has put together a Web Page with help for ALL the listproc
commands...

Those who are Web-enabled, may want to check it out... those who are
challenged, take heart... the "manual way" is more like the old days
anyway! ;^)

> I have produced a web page here that describes all the listproc commands
> in detail (what can be retrieved with the individual help commands) and
> this may help some people who have web access and are having problems.

The address is:

<http://www.theporch.com/listproc/listproc.html>

--

73

Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657/#1789 -- both all mobile! ;^)

- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List Archiver/Owner - - -

listown@jackatak.theporch.com ---- firebot1@jackatak.theporch.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996

From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>

Subject: BC Radios FS, Book Trade

Message-ID: <960211035050_71333.144_DHB57-4@CompuServe.COM>

For Sale

Contact Don: N3RHT at 412-234-8819 EST weekdays or via e-mail.

RCA tube portable AM set model 1-BX-62. Very good looking but unworking.

\$19

Motorola 3A5B metal radio (cube). Nice shape except front cover is heat damaged. No handle. Untested and assumed to be unworking. \$19

Trade For Radio Book of Equal Value: Hardy Boys, The Hidden Harbor Mystery, Original 1935 printing. Slight tear in rear cover, otherwise exc.

Thanks.

73, Don

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From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996

From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>

Subject: BC-348 (?) in Highlander TV this weekend (BA SIGHTING)

Message-ID: <9602110429.AA14670@kali>

I am not sure if it is a 348 or 342, but as usual Hollywood (or in this case, Vancouver) keeps adding new options to receivers.

This week's Highlander episode deals with Duncan having a flash-back to the London Blitz in 1940... He befriends an American woman, a broadcaster, who is running a remote back to the BBC.....transmitting on what sure looks like a BC-348 with an added meter on the right!

Props...gotta love 'em!

73,
--Andy
wallace@mc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996
From: Sandy Blaize <70401.134@compuserve.com>
Subject: RE: Below 2 Mhz. radio
Message-ID: <960211080051_70401.134_IHD64-1@CompuServe.COM>

Maritime radio from 410-512 Khz. was very common up to a few years ago. Soon it will become a thing of the past when CW/MCW is phased out in 1999! We amateur operators will be the ONLY ones left to preserve the tradition of manual morse radiotelegraphy.

The common frequencies used by ships in that region are: 410, 425, 454, 468, 480, 500 and 512 Khz. Sometimes 432 and 444 were used, but not often. The coast stations were all on 500 khz plus a 'working' frequency assigned to that coast station. The usual procedure is for the ship to call on 500 khz., the calling and distress channel and shift to another of the frequencies above. For instance, WNU Slidell uses 478 as it's working frequency. They will usually request the ship change to 480 or 468 to pass their traffic, the ship listening to 478 khz.

On the 400-500 khz band you are in an entirely different world than HF! Most transmitters use 'variometers' (variable inductors) for tuning instead of variable capacitors. (Due to their greater tuning range in that region) The variometers are wound with large "litz" wire (16-10 guage) for greater efficiency. Most shipboard antennas are either 150-200' wires or verticals with some form of top loading. Nearly all are fed directly with a single wire feed as a transmission line. Even at relatively low power levels (200-500 watts) the RF voltages present at the transmitter output terminal are VERY high. I have seen an "A2" modulated 500 watt transmitter's output jump a 5-6" insulator to ground on a damp day, the spark 'singing' at the modulation frequency (usually around 800 hz.) Very awesome!

The Mackay and RCA transmitters predominately used a pair of 813 tubes in class "C". Power level (either 250 or 500 watts output) determined by the power

supply
installed. This was the "main" transmitter. "Emergency" or "Reserve"
transmitters
commonly used 807's or 6146's and ran about 40-50 watts out. The "main" ran
from the
ship's AC or DC 'mains' voltage, while the "Reserve" transmitter ran from 12 VDC
batteries.

Two receivers were required to be carried, the "main" operating from the "mains"
and
the "Reserve" operating from a battery supply.

In the past, lower frequencies were used as well. Seems like I recall
143 Khz
was the calling frequency in that band. This was a holdover from the "Spark"
and "Arc"
days. Back then they made high powered RF alternators to generate RF on those
frequencies! The "old" radio room looked like an electrician's nightmare
instead of
a room for radios! This, of course, is where the term "Sparks" came from for
the
Radio Officer. The term carries over to this day.

On a good night, it was not at all unusual for me, using a converted
BC-453 receiver, to hear WCC-Chatham, MA, WSL-New York, WOE-Florida, KFS in
California,
and KLB in Seattle all in one night on 500 khz. This from New Orleans.
Naturally,
the "Gulf" stations: WNU, WLO, KLC, WPA, WAX, WPD all came roaring thru along
with CLA-Havana. Frequently you'd hear the Mexicans, and sometime Curacao
Radio.

I would think for amateur operations to be successful on these
frequencies,
one would need a GOOD vertical antenna at least 50-75' high with a top-loading
system. Also necessary would be a GOOD radial system with no less than 36
radials
at least as long as the antenna is high. This should also apply to the
"Low-fer"
band as well. A decent radial system is necessary in the broadcast band as any
broadcast engineer knows, if one wants good coverage and a high as possible
field strength. WNU used to use a dual long wire about 200-300' long and up
on a couple of 100' plus telephone poles. Think they ran around 5-10 kw. and
put out a fairly decent signal. I don't know what kind of a 'ground plane' or
radial
or counterpoise system they used.

In the VLF/LF range, I found the TRF-regenerative receiver superior to
anything else. Superhets are full of birdies and spurious responses, especially
in a metropolitan area where there are lots of AM broadcast stations etc. The
old Armstrong 'regenny' still seems to be the simplest and best in this
frequency
range for CW reception.

73 & ZUT,

Sandy W5TVW

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Boatanchors collected, restored, modified and used!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996

From: lkayser@WorldLink.ca (Larry Kayser)

Subject: Boatanchor Repeaters.....

Message-ID: <9602120309.AC28349@beacon.WorldLink.ca>

We have recently heard about looking from a Boatanchor perspective about some of the early FM 146.76 wars in California, back when Ken Sessions (K6MVH?) was holding forth with over a 1000 tubes in his FM system.

How about if we move back one more generation, real Boatanchor stuff. How about some tapes of K6MYK, the AM 2 Meter repeater in LA that repeated Heathkit Lunchboxes up to 500 watts on top of a mountain! This station was written up once in QST, but I have heard stories about some of the goings on that would make interesting hearing, and that was at a time when there really were some serious enforcement of rules....

I once carried, as hand luggage, a Motorola 5V mobile radio with an internal AC supply and cristaled for 146.76 all the way to LA to listen to the fun and games, when I got there, the FCC had finally shut down one of the big machines and the guy whos dog had a ham ticket for a repeater had been taken off the air as well. Just think if the FM age had not come along, all those millions of 6ak5's that were making noise for the receiver front ends could have quite work earlier!!!!!!!

Larry

va3lk / wa3zia

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996

From: flanders@GroupZ.net (Jerry Flanders)

Subject: Boatanchor Web Site?

Message-ID: <199602110504.XAA21808@uro.theporch.com>

THIS APPEARED ON THE QRP-L DIGEST I READ LATE SATURDAY NIGHT. AT THIS TIME, I DON'T KNOW IF DAVE HAS ALREADY POSTED IT ON BA OR NOT. I CHECKED IT OUT, AND FOUND LOTS OF GOOD STUFF THERE. I LOOKED UP AN OLD TRANSMITTER WE USED IN MY AIRFORCE UNIT IN 1952 (THE BC-191), SAW IT'S SCHEMATIC. ALSO DOWNLOADED SCHEMATIC OF BC-457 FOR PRINTING LATER. CHECK IT OUT.

JERRY W4UKU COPIED FROM QRP-L BELOW:

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Hi all...

I found a site that has just about every Military radio ever made along with all the specs, original contract dates and who made it in what years. Some items are surprising. It even has scans of the schematics!!

This might be an item more for the boat anchor guys...but there is some neat QRP gear out there at the ham fests and here is a way that might help you get it on the air.

<http://linux.cec.army.mil/htbin/billcnt/hamradio/equipment/mi.htm>

7.3

Dave, AA7TQ

-----END OF QUOTE FROM QRP-L-----

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>  
Subject: Brown Brothers Key For Trade  
Message-ID: <311EB1B6@se.continental.com>

Thanks! Then here goes....

TRADES ONLY:

I have a new, mint, and original Brown Brothers BTL-A key. I purchased two when I was a senior in high school: one to use, one to keep as a collector's item some day.

That day has arrived.

I am looking for trades only (please, no cash purchase replies) on pre-WWII Vibroplex and Bunnell bugs. In particular, I am looking for a Pre-WWII Blue Racer or Bunnell Gold Bug and I am willing to add cash to the trade for a nice pre-WWII bug.

-Paul, N9AZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: Jim Taylor <jptaylor@execpc.com>

Subject: Browning Labs VFO  
Message-ID: <311EB978.4B47@execpc.com>

I have what appears to be an early VFO floating around the shack. It is contained in a black krinkle finished cabinet which has one large dial (brass) on the front (frequency) marked 'Browning Labs'. There are three smaller dials / switches on the front, all with brass scale indicators. One of these is labeled 'Band'.

Does anyone recognize this. What rigs were typically used with this?

Is anyone interested in adding this to their collection?

Thanks,

Jim Taylor, K9JT  
jptaylor@execpc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: ross@hypertools.com (David Ross)  
Subject: Buying manuals from the government  
Message-ID: <199602120303.TAA29507@desiree.teleport.com>

Boatanchorites...

Here are two techniques I've used to buy manuals direct from the government.

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#### TECHNIQUE #1

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- Call 800/352-3572 and ask them to mail you a copy of form DD-2345, the "Militarily Critical Technical Data Agreement".
- Fill out the form and mail it back to the specified address. In section 4, where it asks for "DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT BUSINESS ACTIVITY", a buddy of mine wrote "for hobby activity" and got the form signed.
- Assuming that the powers-that-be find you an acceptable risk, you'll receive the original DD-2345 back in a few weeks, signed by some U.S. and some Canadian functionaries.

When you want to buy a manual, make a copy of the signed original DD-2345, sign the new copy, and send the new copy in with the your manual request. If fortune smiles on you, the manual will be available and they'll quote you a price.

Apparently, these 'Joint Certification' folks are mostly worried about

sensitive data finding it's way beyond U.S. & Canadian borders. In 1991, I used this form to buy (from McClellan AFB in Sacramento) a set of manuals for a TSC-15 radio shelter, a unit designed in the late 1950's. All the books came to me with all the front pages stamped in red ink with a verbose 'NOT FOR EXPORT' warning. In 1993, I saw about 200 lbs of the \*same\* manuals inside some TSC-15s at a Sacramento scrapyard - no doubt destined for Taiwan or Korea...

Of course, the trick is to find out just what government facility has the book you're after... I haven't dealt with her in several years, but this lady at McClellan AFB was quite helpful - try her at:

Dorothy Voxland at 916/643-4380 or 916/643-4381 or 916/643-2111.

Various Air Logistics Centers are 'prime' for different electronic systems, and McClellan ALC is prime for most any radio shelter in the Armed Forces - they even fix shelters for the Marine Corps. They are a reasonable place to start. If McClellan doesn't work on a particular electronic system then they can't supply you with the book for it, but they can generally refer you to the facility which does work on it.

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TECHNIQUE #2

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- Send this letter, substituting the desired TM-11 # and unit nomenclature:

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TO:

Commander, USACECOM

ATTN: AMSEL-IM-PI-E

Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703-5000

In accordance with AR25-55 and the Freedom of Information Act, I request one (1) copy of TM 11-5840-365-12 for my personal use. This manual covers the AN/PPS-15B radar set. I agree to pay reasonable charges for processing this request and for the manual.

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I'm told that the text is critical - the above verbage did work for me. About three weeks after sending the letter, I received a notice telling me that they were considering my request, and about three days after that I received the manual. Never did get a bill for the thing, though. Being an Army operation, this probably works only for Army books, like those with a TM-11 prefix.

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\*\*\*\*\*  
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And now, while I've got your attention, I'm looking for books for:  
- the TGC-29, a MITE teletypewriter with built-in tape reader & punch.  
- The PRC-71 & PRC-72, a backpack radio used by forward air controllers.

73 and best of luck  
Dave Ross      KA6EPI      ross@hypertools.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com   Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: <BAACK@MAINE.MAINE.EDU>  
Message-ID: <96041.151603BAACK@MAINE.MAINE.EDU>  
Subject: Classic AM rig for sale

Hello All,  
I have a Heathkit dx-100b   transmitter   for sale  
(The clasic AM rig)  
As well as a Hallicrafter SX-101 receiver  
I am looking to get around \$220.00 for the set if possible.  
The receiverworks great, however I think one of the finals in the  
100b is going or gone.   I haven't even used it on the air.  
I got them abot three years ago..and all they are doing is taking up space.  
Will take best offer closest to my desired range.  
Will talk about trades as well,   basic ssb rig..10M gear..6 Meter..  
heck even 2 meters stuff....  
Make me an offer.  
Jason  
baack@maine.maine.edu

emd of transposted message.

From boatanchors@theporch.com   Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: MODSTEPH@ACS.EKU.EDU  
Subject: Re: Crystal Description  
Message-ID: <01I1377HJJ2Q000CT6@ACS.EKU.EDU>

The "common garden variety" crystals that can plug two to  
and octal socket are indeed the FT-243 type crystal.

73,   A1   N5AIT  
modsteph@acs.eku.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: w7ni@teleport.com (Stan Griffiths)  
Subject: Crystal Descriptions  
Message-ID: <199602111738.JAA17695@desiree.teleport.com>

My personal knowledge of crystals is about zero. I have had hundreds of them pass through my hands at flea markets, but I don't know an "FT-243" from any other type. I see requests all time on the BA net for this crystal type or that type, but I can't respond because I don't know them by types. Has someone published a quick reference so I can tell if I have something you might want?

Here is what I think would be handy: A cross reference showing the type, "FT-243", for example, with a pin configuration showing number of pins (I have seen some with more than two pins), pin spacing, pin configuration, pin diameter, and any other characteristic like package style or unique lettering or marking that might help me identify a crystal. This should be easy for one of you crystal experts who have all this data in your head already. I know this will generate some controversy, but a little guidance on how to price them for sale would be helpful, too. For those of you who think helping others price stuff they are not familiar with is not a good thing to do, please look in my scope book where you will see that I have priced every Tek instrument in there in an attempt to help those not as familiar with the technology as I am. The process is not perfect, and I get people disagreeing with my estimates all the time, but it is a heck of a lot better than nothing, which is what I have on crystals right now.

Just yesterday, I was visiting my Dad, W7PH, (82 years old) and he pulled a drawer open in his operating desk and took out about a dozen crystals and gave them to me. He says he has nothing that uses crystals anymore and he is slowing cleaning out surplus stuff in preparation for a move to a retirement home. Almost all of these crystals were used by him at one time or another to operate a homebrew mobile rig on AM back in the '50s. All I can tell you is that they are the common garden variety type crystal that I used to use in my Novice rig in 1953. You could plug two of these in a common octal socket, side by side. Is this an FT-243?

Stan W7NI@teleport.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: "Ray L. Mote" <rmote@rain.org>  
Subject: Re: Crystal Descriptions  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960211174441.19651B-1000000@coyote.rain.org>

Right on target! They confuse the hell out of me, too, although I at least know what an FT-243 is. From your description, it sounds like that's what you have. The cases were phenolic/bakelite (? - wish I knew more about materials!) and could have either a similar front slab or a metal plate, usually with three holes filled with little Phillips head countersunk screws. The pair I have measure:

|          |        |        |                                      |
|----------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Height:  | 1.137" | 1.132" | (not including blob around each pin) |
| Width:   | 0.813" | 0.814" |                                      |
| Depth:   | 0.438" | 0.438" |                                      |
| Pin Dia: | 0.093" | 0.093" |                                      |

Pin spacing is about 1/2 inch.

I see that the nuts are held fixed in hex-sided holes in the back of the units. One is also marked "Type CRL-16 Freq. 3105 Kc Crystal Research Laboratories, Inc. Hartford, Conn." The other is Navy Type 40125 and is up on 16.64 Mc! Grabbed 'em at random from the pile, but they're what \*I\* recognize as the "FT-243" package style. There may be differences in load capacitance, etc., but at least the sizing is right.

Wonder where the Crystal Guru is? Why has he forsaken Boatanchors?

73.....Ray Mote, W6RIC <rmote@rain.org>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>  
Subject: DX-100 TX, Hallic RX for sale in ME. Transposted from r.r.s.  
Message-ID: <199602111306.IAA03481@northshore.shore.net>

Hope I don't get flamed for this.

Please contact the original poster - I know nothing!

73,

Michael

begin transposted message:

>From BAACK@MAINE.MAINE.EDU Sun Feb 11 08:01:05 EST 1996  
Article: 44896 of rec.radio.swap  
Path: shore!news3.near.net!sol.caps.maine.edu!maine.maine.edu!baack  
Organization: University of Maine System  
From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org

Subject: EAC is still in business  
Message-ID: <296194@w5ddl.aara.org>

If anyone was interested, the EAC that made thousands of R-390A's is still in business, although they look much different now.

Their HQ is at 282 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511. They make point of purchase advertising displays, wall decorations, and plastic package overwraps. They also make heat transfer labels for hoses, belts, and tire patches.

Quite a ways from BA production.

73 de tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: jproc@worldlinx.com  
Subject: Fred Hammond Radio Museum  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.2.960210230045.jproc@>

Dear BA'ers,

For the longest time, I've been meaning to visit the Fred Hammond Radio Museum in Guelph Ontario. Has anyone in the group paid a recent visit? I heard that you have book an appointment. Does Fred usually give Sunday tours? Does Fred have any military BA gear in the museum or is it all 1920 and 30's radio?

Regards,

~~~~~  
Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinx.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida, Toronto Ontario
~~~~~

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org  
Subject: Harris 590 rec help needed  
Message-ID: <295946@w5ddl.aara.org>

Reply to the gentleman directly, this is a relay. Thanks, Tom

=====  
I  
need to contact someone out there who could advise me about  
the Harris RF-590 receiver, RF-551A preselector and  
RF-1310 Exciter. I've obtained two 590s from a lot  
that probably came out of the Embassy here and they  
are both in working order. I have surmised that they must  
be the 80s version of the 390 line (?) and have been  
recently phased out. The two 590s carry serial numbers  
1274 and 1324 and the Harris patent number is 4138654.  
The Exciter carries serial number 0392.

If you could kindly pass this message on to anyone who  
may be familiar with this Harris equipment, I would  
most appreciate it. Or, give me a short email with their  
email address.

Many thanks and good luck with the 390 project.

Jim Sorenson  
WB6KNJ

Internet: TLAMONT@AUC-ACS.EUN.EG  
BITNET : TLAMONT@EGAUCACS.BITNET  
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: TEK0CH@aol.com  
Subject: Harvey Wells - T-90  
Message-ID: <960211110854\_419829467@mail06.mail.aol.com>

I am in the process of restoring a Harvey Wells - T-90 and am looking for  
copies of the manual and schematics as well as the powersupply. I would also  
be interested in a parts rig or second T-90 and the matching R-9 or R-9A  
receiver..

Tom Koch - W4UOC  
8170 Habersham Waters Road  
Dunwoody, GA 30350

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: lkayser@WorldLink.ca (Larry Kayser)  
Subject: Help, Info, Variable Cap, Small Vacuum Caps  
Message-ID: <9602112252.AA18988@beacon.WorldLink.ca>

Greetings:

I have a Cardwell TL-70-UD Capacitor, which is split stator 70 - 0 - 70 MMFD at some voltage rating, probably 6 KV. If someone has a Cardwell I would sure like to have the Voltage rating and any other engineering data confirmed. My unit as cracked support bars, the material looks like some kind of very early plastic that has gone brittle - if anyone has info on this material I would like to understand it's characteristics. I will be replacing these cracked mounting bars with teflon like product....

If someone is into early catalogues, I would like to know the old B & W push pull 1KW plug in Coil dimensions for 80 and 160, the coil length, diameter, number of turns and turns per inch. I think they also specified a suitable tuning capacitor, the value they specified for 80 and 160 would be of interest.

To increase the C in the output tuning circuit I want to put some fixed vacuum capacitors in parallel with the Cardwell. I have been beating my calculator up and I would like to find at least one set (of two pieces) of fixed vacuum capacitors in the range of 50 to 100 mmfd. I need two of them, one for each section of the capacitor. I have seen a design that used one vacuum capacitor that went directly from one stator to the other, I would like to avoid this option if possible.

Input on this is welcomed.

Larry  
va3lk / wa3zia

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: Robertson <zafod@ix.netcom.com>  
Subject: HQ180A for trade  
Message-ID: <199602111905.LAA23625@ix5.ix.netcom.com>

Trade HQ-180A in \_very\_ good condition for older general coverage solid state desktop reciever such as:

Icom R-70  
FRG-7700  
FRG-7000

No Portables!

Robertson

zafod@ix.netcom.com (MIME attachments welcome)

\*\*\*\*\*

"An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind."

-Ghandi

\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996

From: berg stephen erik <z931086@corn.cso.niu.edu>

Subject: Re: Mica capacitor quandry...

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9602102112.A10712-01000000@corn.cso.niu.edu>

I was working in the Motorola factory at the time Jim got those radios. One of the first major customers for the Micor radios was the government of South Korea. In addition to the bad caps mentioned in the preceding post, they also had a voltage spike in the keying section that was quite a bit above the breakdown rating of several capacitors. If you keyed the transmitter fast several times, the caps went out and the whole radio started to smoke copiously. We often thought that the Koreans were going to key the radios, and escape from attack under the ensuing smoke screen. Eventually, they increased the voltage ratings, and we went on to other problems.

73,

Steve WA9JML

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996

From: USSAILIS@forum.phast.umass.edu

Subject: MIT Radlab series reprints

Message-ID: <01I130XD12UA00N583@rfd.oit.umass.edu>

Dover reprinted the RadLab series once. The Brits have also reprinted Silver (Antennas), but it is pricey. An interesting part of the series is the copyright. In the preface it states that the series is available for all to copy.

Jim, W1EQ0

ussailis@forum.phast.umass.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996

From: Joe\_Wilkowski@mc.xerox.com (Wilkowski,Joe)

Subject: Nee R-391 Information Please

Message-ID: <"BB121C3181B7677C">BB121C3181B7677C@X-MC-0819-MS2.XEROX"@-SMF->

Anchorites;

I have just acquired a Collins R-391-/- in very good condx. This receiver has an Army Sig Corps plate on it with serial number 175. In addition, it has non inlaid white lettering above the name plate "20-294-35/mft". The radio is in excellent shape both cosmetically as well as mechanically.

Can anyone tell me :

I have seen many references to 390's & 390A's but can't remember reading anything about a 391. What is the history of this particular receiver ? When was it produced?

In addition, although it looks a lot like a r-390 it has a couple of subtle difference. The KC knob & Megahertz knob both have small butterfly bolts protruding from the middle of each knob, these lock down the knobs mechanically. In addition, there is a small window to the right of the kc knob that is marked Channel with a 1 showing in the window (probably equipped for crystal controlled rx). Just above that, is a knob that is / was probably mechanically connected to the channel mechanism underneath.. The receive apparently is stuck in this mode as c hanging the mc/kc vfo/pto does not make any difference at the moment. The rf & audio circuits seem to be functioning fine. Don't think it will be any big problem.

But before I start poking around, I thought I would bounce this off the reflector, is any one familiar with this receiver ?

Does anyone have a Tech Manual they would like to sell or I would pay to have it copied. (Gonna call Fair Radio tomorrow)

The rest of the receiver looks like a 390 and I do have documentation for the 390, but before I start roaming around, I would like to obtain the right Tech Manual.

Seems to be a rare bird to me.....

Thanks in advance,

/joe k8fc  
joe\_wilkowski@mc.xerox.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: Radiomatt@aol.com  
Subject: Re: Nee R-391 Information Please  
Message-ID: <960211175124\_319131651@emout04.mail.aol.com>

I used to have one just like it. It is actually a radio that can be remote controlled from a sender unit that had a rotary telephone dial in the center. As I recall, you could select one of ten different radios, and then select one of either six or ten channels that were MECHANICALLY preset in each one. That is, the 391s had motors in them to tune them (like the R-389), but with some way of setting the stops so the would land on a certain frequency. I had both the 391 and the controller units, but could never get a schematic or (more importantly) the cables or connectors to hook them up. My memory is faint on a lot of this, but the back panel should have extra connectors for the remote control and the phone lines. That's the best I can do!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org  
Subject: New R-390A List in BA Archive  
Message-ID: <296192@w5ddl.aara.org>

Jack has installed the latest R-390A list in the archives.

Here is how to retrieve it.

73 de tom

=====

Reply to: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu

To get a copy of the subject list, send an Internet message to:

listproc@theporch.com

leave the subject line blank

in the body of the message type

get boatanchors r390a.users

Thanks to all who have contributed R-390A info. We have data on about 200 rigs from 17 contracts. The lowest serial number seen was 2, and the highest in a given contract was over 6000. Contributions include those from Dittmore-Freimuth and Fowler Industries contracts, as well as an EAC Industries consumer products run.

As I mentioned in earlier posts, I am compiling a survey of R-390A's owned by people who frequent the packet and Internet boards. The object of the game is to try and ascertain how many contracts were let for manufacture, and how many were made.

If you wish to participate in the census and you own one or more R-390A's (or spy them on ships, hamfests, or just anywhere), please go take a peek at it (them) and then reply to me with this information:

- 1) maker (EAC, Motorola, etc)
- 2) order number (63-PH-54 for ex) from the front tag
- 3) serial number off of the front tag
- 4) any unusual features (tags, stamps, frequency shield, etc)

The list includes an accounting of the contributors, however, the names are not matched with the rigs. If contributors have a desire to sell their rigs, I'm sure they will speak up, so you won't get any cards or letters from making a data contribution to the list.

Thanks,

de tom n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu      Internet  
n5off@k5arh.la.usa      packet

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: Sandra L Knepper <slkst29+@pitt.edu>  
Subject: Refinishing Cabinets/HR0-60  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9602110759.A15466-0100000@unixs1.cis.pitt.edu>

Has anyone refinished the metal cabinet for the National HR0-60.

My thought is that one would have to use a stripper so as to remove the white engraving paint in order to reapply after repainting the cabinet.

What color did you use to match the original. I bet that the automotive paint section would carry a metallic gray.

Any assistance would be appreciated.

Thank you.

David Knepper, W3BJZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996

From: Walt Novinger <waltn@hooked.net>  
Subject: Re: Refinishing Cabinets/HRO-60  
Message-ID: <311E392B.5B23@hooked.net>

Sandra L Knepper wrote:

>

> Has anyone refinished the metal cabinet for the National HRO-60.

>

> My thought is that one would have to use a stripper so as to remove the  
> white engraving paint in order to reapply after repainting the cabinet.

>

> What color did you use to match the original. I bet that the automotive  
> paint section would carry a metallic gray.

>David,

We're in the process of refinishing an HRO-50 cabinet and the saga so far has been "interesting." Rather than stripping the cabinet with chemicals, we took it to a local powdercoating firm who have a bead blasting booth. They blasted the cabinet inside and out, and removed every bit of the paing, including the hard-to-remove paint in the engraved lettering. The finish that's left is perfect for priming and spray printing. Cost was approximately \$80 (it was the biggest part of a \$100 batch).

The really interesting part, however, was the paint matching. We went to one of the most professional and reliable paint stores in the SF Bay Area to have them match the color (we took an un-stripped bottom panel with us). We then began the real saga when we discovered that:

1) CA clean air regulations have completely changed the kinds of paints that are available

2) Resulting from 1), automotive paint of the kind required for the cabinet now costs nearly \$100/gal, with a 1 gal minimum! Considering that we need less than a quart, this seemed like overkill.

3) Matching the color of the cabinet with the paint we could afford (ca. \$25/gal) cannot be done by computer...has to be done from paint chips/formulas, with hand tweaking by a real pro.

4) The hand-matching process is really complicated by the fact that the paint used on the HRO-50/60 series is not a single color but is, rather, an "orange peel" paint where two colors are applied simultaneously but "clump" into a pattern that looks a lot like orange peel (look at the cabinet wioth a magnifying glass to see what I mean). This makes the color matching only close, at best.

5) Plan on finding someone who is willing to spend lots of time in trial-and-error and who won't charge you an arm and a leg for each try.

Most likely, if they advertise that they can match any color, by the time you make them make good on this, they'll never want to see you again, tho!

How did the process work out? Well, the cabinet is still at our painter's and should be back within a week or so. The color we finally settled on \_looks\_ like it'll be really close. The coloring of the letters will be a no-brainer using the lacquer sticks available from AES...we've done this before on several radios. When the lettering is applied and has set, we'll then have the whole cabinet clear-coated to protect the finish.

Is this worth it? Dunno, but it sure will be pretty! I certainly wouldn't ever count on getting your money back unless you have the spray gear and bead blaster, and can get a \_really\_ good price on the paint. You have to do this because you love the radios (and are slightly nuts, too!).

Will keep all posted on the end result.

Walt

=====

|                                                                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Walt Novinger                                                                     | Real Radios Keep You Warm At Night! |
| Collector of hollowstate communications receivers and test equipment              |                                     |
| waltn@hooked.net                                                                  | wnovinger@shl.com                   |
|                                                                                   | CI\$: 73348,2015                    |
| <a href="http://www.hooked.net/users/waltn">http://www.hooked.net/users/waltn</a> |                                     |

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Rockwell/Collins  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9602111827.A18365-0100000@netcom4>

Hi Gang,

Has Collins been totally absorbed by Rockwell? Have they moved out of Cedar Rapids? I need an address or phone number of same. I'm going to try to get some manuals from them for non-avionics gear.

TIA

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: "Allan Fritsche" <fritsche@msn.com>  
Subject: Secret R-390's and their use

Message-ID: <UPMAIL03.199602120005200755@msn.com>

Guys, ive seen talk here about specialized R-390's or 391's, I would like to respond to them but am uncertain as if it wouldn't be a breach of security even after all these years.

Now, a question. What was the weigth of a R-390 , I pulled many from the duplex consoles we used back in the early 60's at ASA. Did I dream this or did they use Selinium Rectifiers for rectification. Seems like I remember pulling one out of the console one time and a ugly cloud of smoke hit me in the snot locker. Even in those days we knew not to breath that stuff.

So what's the weight.

Guess I got to have one before long, God knows where I will put it.

Al fritsche  
fritsche@msn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: Paul.Thekan@pgtp.varian.com (Paul Thekan)  
Subject: SIGNAL CORPS BOOKS  
Message-ID: <199602110411.UAA21532@pgtp.varian.com>

Greetings all

Several months ago I ordered the following books from the U. S. Govt. Printing office. They are part of the multi volume United States in WW2 Series. There are 3 volumes that cover the Signal Corps , they are hard cover books , and contain a lot of information. Some of it can be dry but there are interesting bits and pieces that can be gleened from it . And yes there are pictures.

| Stock No.                                         | Title | Price               |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| The Emergency ( to Dec. 1941 )<br>383 pages<br>2  |       | \$ 26               |
|                                                   |       | 008 - 029 - 00048 - |
| The Outcome ( mid 43' - 45' )<br>720 pages<br>1   |       | \$ 19               |
|                                                   |       | 008 - 029 - 00049 - |
| The Test ( Dec 41' - July 43' )<br>621 pages<br>0 |       | \$ 17               |
|                                                   |       | 008 - 029 - 00075 - |

You can order from the US Govt Printing office by phone at:

202 - 512 - 1800                      8 am. - 4 pm. eastern war time.

Ask for the Military History Bibliography book listing . Its 58 pages of all the other books that are available that are military related. I'am not sure if the above listed books are still availble or not and if the prices have changed so your on your own. Enjoy.

73

Paul    N6FEG

Paul Thekan - Speaking for Himself  
Paul.Thekan@pgtp.varian.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com    Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: Paul.Thekan@pgtp.varian.com (Paul Thekan)  
Subject: RE: Signal Corps Books  
Message-ID: <199602110452.UAA21573@pgtp.varian.com>

YIKES !

I do'nt know exactly what I did wrong but the ordering info on the books came out screwy. It should read:

The Emergency    383 pages  
Stock no. 008 - 029 - 00048 - 2  
Price    \$26

The Outcome    720 pages  
Stock no. 008 - 029 - 00049 - 1  
Price \$19

The Test    621 pages  
Stock no. 008 - 029 - 00075 - 0  
Price \$17

Sorry for the confusion andsd added bandwidth.

Paul            N6FEG

Paul Thekan - Speaking for Himself  
Paul.Thekan@pgtp.varian.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: Dave Hockaday <wb4iuy@nando.net>  
Subject: Signal corps museum  
Message-ID: <9602111436.AA13857@merlin.nando.net>

Does anyone have a good address for the Signal Corps museum? I have  
<http://147.51.200.6/museum/> but it doesn't seem to be working anymore...

73 de Dave Hockaday WB4IUY  
wb4iuy@nando.net  
My homepage <http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3489/>  
TEARA Club homepage <http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3341/>  
FCARC Club homepage <http://www.geocities.com/TheTropics/3212/>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>  
Subject: Somebody up there doesn't like me!!  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9602110820.A10668-0100000@netcom19>

Hi gang,

I'm trying to get an old Motorola consolete up and running. I had it running, and after I got the antenna up yesterday, the rig didn't work. I took it apart again and discovered that the filter choke was smoking merrily away. Gee, I guess you can't receive if you don't have any B+.

Does anyone out there have a Motorola part number 25B825358, 2.3 henry filter reactor??

On the other side, I have no use for a Allied Knight Kit rectifier transformer part numbers 6-K-100HF, 54-4731 that's sitting in the junk box. If anyone needs one, please let me know and it's theirs for the cost of postage.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: Paul.Thekan@pgtp.varian.com (Paul Thekan)  
Subject: TBW HELP  
Message-ID: <199602110431.UAA21552@pgtp.varian.com>

Hello All

I need help in finding a case for my TBW HF xmtr. I have nearly everything to complete this field set including the RBM receiver field set .

I want to try and operate from Treasure Island this coming Armed Forces Day with the TBW.

I have an extra LF xmtr case that I would trade for the HF case. I could use th LF case but it would have to be severly modifed and I really do'nt want to to that especially if it would help someone else complete their set.

Someone might have one of these cases kicking around and maybe using it to store stuff in. The case dims. are approx.

30'' long  
12'' wide  
15'' deep

It has a screw down cover thats 14'' wide and 32'' long. There are 17 screws that hold down the cover. In the back of the case is 5 '' dia screw cover that shields the Ant. terninals. This cover is located aprox. 7'' from the top of the case to the center of the screw cover. There is also another water tight cover on the bottom of the case.

Apreciate any help or suggestions .Sorry to go into such detail but it's kinda of an unusual case.

Thanks for reading this

Paul N6FEG

Paul Thekan - Speaking for Himself  
Paul.Thekan@pgtp.varian.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>  
Subject: Trade Posting?  
Message-ID: <311E9A37@se.continental.com>

Anyone know if it's alright to place a trade ad for a vintage CW key?

-Paul, N9AZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: buska@aaic.advantest.com (d.buska@advantest.com)  
Subject: Tube Specs (rolls) for TV-2 Tube Tester  
Message-ID: <96021117055059@aaic.advantest.com>

Today I just picked up a few boxes of old tubes. A good many of these are in the 200 and 300 series, i.e. Western Electrics, Cunninghams, Silvertone, etc. To my surprise when I wanted to test them they were not on the roll chart on my TV2A/U tester. Does anyone have any data for testing these older boys on this machine?

The next part came when I found a few 6146B's in the pile. Yes this one doesn't appear on the roll chart either. This is true with many of the 7XXX series tubes I have in stock also. Now this one may be easier solved by the later tables made for the "B" and "C" versions of the TV-2 tube tester.

Has anyone made a book or listing for the newer tubes that aren't covered in my old 1952 "A" version tester?

As far as the 200 and 300 series stuff what might be a good book to get for obtaining specs on these tubes. I could probably setup the TV-2 myself if I had pinouts and specs. Most of the tubes manuals I have don't have tubes before the mid-20's. I do have the Radio Tube Manual sold by AES, and it does fine for the double digit tubes, but not the 200/300 series. It does have a couple of pages on WE tubes, but no pin out data.

AES does offer the books 75 Years of Western Electric Tube Manufacturing and the Electron Tube Locator. Has anyone ever checked these out and could you provide a critique on there value with reference to the 200/300 series tubes?

Thanks folks, I want to use some of these old 200/300 series tubes to build a small xmtr for the AWA OT CW contests.

73  
Don N900  
d.buska@advantest.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: michael@kc2kj.k2nesoft.com (Mike Sullivan)  
Subject: Unusual r-391 receiver  
Message-ID: <199602112105.QAA17941@kc2kj.k2nesoft.com>

I suspect the receiver was part of the world-wide hfdhf network run by the navy to triangulate ship positions based on hf transmissions. It is a fascinating system of which very little is written. Much remains classified.

Mike

-----  
michaels@kc2kj.k2nesoft.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: "Ray L. Mote" <rmote@rain.org>  
Subject: Re: Unusual R-391/URR  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960211173903.19651A-100000@coyote.rain.org>

I'm sorry, but I don't have the information you seek. I do want to thank you for the nameplate data on that Navy contract -- it will be very helpful to the group researching Navy contracts! I only wish more folks would take the time to send in nameplate data to Bill Donzelli <integrat@usr.com>. If you could take the time to forward the data on the original plate, the Navy contract group would greatly appreciate it.

73.....Ray Mote, W6RIC <rmote@rain.org>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: dgibbs@rational.com  
Subject: Unusual R-391/URR Receiver  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.960211133728.dgibbs2@>

Greetings all,

I've been meaning to post something about this to the group for a long time. I picked up an R-391/URR receiver about 1.5 years ago that seems to be unusual. I am curious if anyone out there has seen another R-391 like this, or perhaps may be familiar with this particular version.

The front panel of this rig has an additional decal, about 1.5 inches square, immediately below the function switch. It reads:

R-391/URR (MOD)  
RECEIVER, RADIO

-----  
A unit of direction finder set AN/FRA-44 (XN-1)  
Counter Measures Receiving Set AN/FLR-7(XN-1)  
-----

Modified For  
Navy Department - Bureau of Ships

by contractor  
Radio Corporation of America  
Camden N.J.  
contract NObsr 81315  
U.S.

On the front panel of this receiver, there is a small metal plate that covers the hole where the bandwidth switch should be. In other words, the bandwidth switch has been removed. On the IF Deck, there is NO shaft coming out of the chassis where the bandwidth control would be. There is just a hole there. In addition, the IF transformer covers on the IF deck look different, and in fact, have the name "RCA" and a part number on the sides. It definitely appears that the IF Deck was modified by RCA.

The rest of the receiver appears to be normal, just like any other R-389/R390/R391.

Does anyone else out there have an R-391 modified like this? Does anyone know the story behind this unit?

Dennis Gibbs  
dgibbs@rational.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: "Dave Emery" <die@pig.die.com>  
Subject: Re: Unusual R-391/URR Receiver  
Message-ID: <9602111931.AA21815@pig.die.com>

>  
>  
> R-391/URR (MOD)  
> RECEIVER, RADIO  
>  
> -----  
> A unit of direction finder set AN/FRA-44 (XN-1)  
> Counter Measures Receiving Set AN/FLR-7(XN-1)  
> -----  
>  
> Modified For  
> Navy Department - Bureau of Ships  
> by contractor  
> Radio Corporation of America  
> Camden N.J.  
> contract NObsr 81315  
> U.S.

>  
> On the front panel of this receiver, there is a small metal plate  
> that covers the hole where the bandwidth switch should be. In  
> other words, the bandwidth switch has been removed. On the IF  
> Deck, there is NO shaft coming out of the chassis where the  
> bandwidth control would be. There is just a hole there. In addition,  
> the IF transformer covers on the IF deck look different, and in  
> fact, have the name "RCA" and a part number on the sides. It  
> definitely appears that the IF Deck was modified by RCA.

If I remember correctly, the FLR-7 is the nomenclature for the huge elephant cage HF direction finders used by the NSA and their military adjunct groups for HF monitoring from their various world wide HF monitoring sites. Most are run by the Naval Security Group (NSG) I believe. These are the big circular concentric rings of many tens of tall monopole antennas over a ground screen that occupy several acres.

Your R-391 was modified for use with those direction finding arrays, which use a phase sensing doppler mode that requires controlled phase characteristics over the IF bandpass. For this reason R-390A's were not used, as they have mechanical filters which have complex group delay versus frequency curves and a tendency to ring. Simple stagger tuned IFs have much more linear group delay versus frequency and no tendency to ring.

The absence of a bandwidth knob suggests that the IF bandwidth was optimized for some one kind of signal - I'd be curious to know what the actual IF bandpass curve is for that radio. My guess it that it would be optimized for CW ...

Dave Emery N1PRE  
die@die.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: dgibbs@rational.com  
Subject: Re: Unusual R-391/URR Receiver  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.960211200935.dgibbs2@>

Greetings everyone,

> If I remember correctly, the FLR-7 is the nomenclature for the  
> huge elephant cage HF direction finders used by the NSA and their  
> military adjunct groups for HF monitoring from their various world wide  
> HF monitoring sites. Most are run by the Naval Security Group (NSG) I  
> believe. These are the big circular concentric rings of many tens of  
> tall monopole antennas over a ground screen that occupy several acres.

>  
> Dave Emery

Dave,

Your response triggered a faint memory. I have a book that describes the antenna you mention, and even has a picture of it at a monitoring post in England. The nomenclature shown in this book is AN/FLR-9. The book also describes that these were indeed used with R390s, but it doesn't specifically mention an R391.

I don't know what the difference between the AN/FLR-7 and the AN/FLR-9 is. Perhaps they are just different versions of the same antenna. I am wondering, though, why this radio was modified for the Navy, when it seems like the system used with the AN/FLR-9/7 antenna would definitely be land based.

I need to post a description of this book on the boatanchors list one of these days as well. It is written by a former US Air Force Signals Intelligence Officer and describes his tours of duty at RAF Chicksands in England.

Dennis Gibbs  
dgibbs@rational.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: Jeffrey Herman <jherman@hawaii.edu>  
Subject: Re: Unusual R-391/URR Receiver  
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.91.960211145955.9244A-100000@uhunix5>

On Sun, 11 Feb 1996 dgibbs@rational.com wrote:

> Dave wrote:  
> > If I remember correctly, the FLR-7 is the nomenclature for the  
> > huge elephant cage HF direction finders used by the NSA and their  
> > military adjunct groups for HF monitoring from their various world wide  
> > HF monitoring sites. Most are run by the Naval Security Group (NSG) I  
> > believe. These are the big circular concentric rings of many tens of  
> > tall monopole antennas over a ground screen that occupy several acres.

> Your response triggered a faint memory.

Same here. I'd forgotten all about the "dinosaur cage" located near NMO (Coast Guard Radio Honolulu). NMO was on the Navy's NAVCAMSEASTPAC (what a mouthful!), and I always thought that the directional antenna control located below each Collins 651S rcvr (we had about 2 dozen of

'em) was connected to that DF cage. Each control was a dozen-position rotary switch.

>From memory, the cage must have had a radius of *\*at least\** 40 yards, and certainly would have held captive the largest dinosaur or elephant. (Note I said radius, not diameter!)

NAVCAMSEASTPAC was located in Whitmore Village, just north of Wahiawa and Wheeler AFB, and just east of Schofield Barracks, smack dab in the middle of the pineapple fields.

Jeff NH6IL (NMO CW op '77 to '80)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: arc5@ix.netcom.com (David Stinson )  
Subject: UPS Shipping Quotes available on the Web  
Message-ID: <199602111641.IAA21209@ix6.ix.netcom.com>

Tired of guessing what the shipping  
on that trade is going to be?  
Point your web browser to:

<http://www.ups.com/using/services/rave/rate.html>

And get a direct quote.

Neat.

You can also track packages, so you can see  
if it's *\*really\** been shipped.

73 Dave Stinson AB5S/7  
arc5@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: buska@aaic.advantest.com (d.buska@advantest.com)  
Subject: Value - Knight StarRoamer  
Message-ID: <96021116564707@aaic.advantest.com>

I have an opportunity to pick up a Knight Star Romer receiver. I has never really heard of one before. It is BC + SW up to 40MHz. Knowing Knight stuff I don't think this radio would come close to the Collins class and probably not even up to some of the Heathkit SW receivers. But since I know nothing about it I figured here is the place to ask. Heck, maybe this falls into the Ocean Hopper collectors category.

Can anyone supply details and what this baby is worth nowadays?

73

Don N900

d.buska@advantest.com

P.S. I've loaned my Raymond Moore "Comm Receiver" bok out to a friend. Boy do I miss it. I gotta give him a call this week!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996

From: Kim Herron <kherron@voyager.net>

Subject: Re: Value - Knight StarRoamer

Message-ID: <199602112335.SAA14406@vixa.voyager.net>

Hi gang and Don

>I have an opportunity to pick up a Knight Star Romer receiver. I has never  
>really heard of one before. It is BC + SW up to 40MHz. Knowing Knight stuff  
>I don't think this radio would come close to the Collins class and probably not  
>even up to some of the Heathkit SW receivers. But since I know nothing about  
>it I figured here is the place to ask. Heck, maybe this falls into the Ocean  
>Hopper collectors category.

I buillt one of tthese when I was a kid. It is one step above a Hallicrafters S-38. The sensitivity wasn't that good, it didn't have a BFO and It was a broad as a barn door selectivity-wise. It did have a transformer isolated power supply [no chassis shock hazard] and it was kinda neat to look at. I miss not having one [nostalgia has caught up with me], but why I don't know. The usual going price on these boxes is in tthe 30 to 50 dollar range. That's about what it sold for new. I do remember a bandswitch change that was made with no addendum sheet in the manual, which resulted in a number of kits built that didn't work. Mine made a trip to the factory and came back smashed courtesy of the USPS. Things haven't changed in 30+ years

73

KIM

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996

From: arc5@ix.netcom.com (David Stinson )

Subject: Vegas Swap Meet Goodies Feb 96

Message-ID: <199602111706.JAA13868@ix3.ix.netcom.com>

Last week was the monthly Vegas swap meet and it was a good one for a poor BA wretch like me.

I parked at 7 AM, walked to my very first table and scooped-up three Command transmitters; a parter T-22, unmodified T-19 (my favorite flavor) and a restorable BC-696, all for \$25. Made tears come to my eyes.

Found something very interesting. Three power supplies using power pentodes (6146s, 6L6s, 6550s) that were \*regulated\* 450VDC @300 mils, 250VDC@500 mils and 150 VDC @150 mils. Guess my TCS rigs will get some REAL stable power.

Tubes by the score at reasonable prices. \$1 and \$2 each for receiving octals, all of which test 100% on my TV-7. Got one bad 1625 out of seven, but at \$1 who's complaining??

Also spotted:  
Drake 1A and 2B, Galaxy Five, Collins KWM-2, Hammerlund HQ-170, HT-37 dirty but working for \$100 (almost followed me home but no room), and various firebottle BC radios.

For those of you into VRC-12 type vehicular ground stuff, I picked-up some antenna bases, tuners, four mounts (the "shovel") and a dirty old VRC-12 rack and shockmount. Free to anyone who wants them and will pay the shipping (est. about \$30).

I traded for an SX-99 in very nice working shape(not mint...if it ain't right out of the box with the plastic still on it, it \*ain't\* mint!!). Also picked-up a Heathkit DX-35 in good shape, but I have yet to test it. And a big, colorful Triplet signal gen, the one with the big red dial face and "tuning fork" indicator. Also got three NIB replacement coils (not the plugins, the individual sheilded coils) for HRO receivers. All of this stuff is available for trade, since I don't collect it and thought someone here might. I will send a photograph of anything I have for trade via .JPG file on IRC DCC, file attachment (if it works!)

or via snailmail disk if anyone is interested.

All in all a great little meet, and a nice break for me from 10,000 worries around the house.

73 DE Dave Stinson AB5S/7  
arc5@ix.netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 22:41:56 1996  
From: David Metz <metzd@cfw.com>  
Subject: weird 391  
Message-ID: <9602120313.AA21447@milo.cfw.com>

The R-725 was the R-390A with the R390 IF strip used by NSA in the TRD15 and 23 systems. As mentioned, they used 8-10 of these receivers and a circle of receiving antennas 150' in diameter and a device called a goinometer? (I think that's right) to sequentially rotate the "antenna farm" to feed it into a truckload of additional equipment from scopes to amplifiers and a transmitter. This allowed the doppler effect to then give a line of bearing for DF Work.

It would sound as if the mentioned 391 had a similar purpose. However, the autotune 390 version creates more questions. Maybe NSA didn't mean to get rid of this one and it slipped away! (Maybe from the Ft. Meade skunk works?) Definately WEIRD!

73's Dave metzd@cfw.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: nielw@ix.netcom.com (Niel Wiegand)  
Subject: Re: WTB FT-171 Xtals  
Message-ID: <199602111704.JAA10765@ix12.ix.netcom.com>

You wrote:

>

> Looking for for 80 and 40 meter crystals in FT-171 holders. These  
> have an approximate 3/4 inch pin spacing and are larger than the  
> FT-243 holders. If you have any you like to part with let me know.  
>

Mike,

In the past CW Crystals has ground crystals to freq for me and put them

in round/recycled/remarked holders that fit in the 5 pin tube sockets.  
He wanted a couple of dollars more to do it but was a good deal for me.

Niel - WA5VLZ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Sun Feb 11 12:21:32 1996  
From: "Chuck Rippel" <crippel@exis.net>  
Subject: WTB: 75A-4 Filter  
Message-ID: <199602111552.KAA20971@marlin.exis.net>

I am looking for the CW filter and AM filter for my 75A-4.

The CW filter can be the 500 or 800 and the AM can be the 4, 6 or 8KC.

Drop me a note in E-Mail.

+++++

Chuck Rippel  
crippel@exis.net

+++++